The Blessing
and Breaking of Ground

The Church School Building and Parish Hall

to be Built

to the Glory of God and for the Service of His People

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ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

DOYLESTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Quinquagesima Sunday, March 4, 1962

at four o'clock

THE SERVICE APPOINTED

FOR

THE BLESSING AND BREAKING OF GROUND

FOR

A CHURCH SCHOOL BUILDING AND PARISH HALL

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EVENSONG AND A LITANY FOR THE CHURCH
(in the Church)

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OFFICIANTS

The Right Reverend Andrew Yu-Yue Tsu, Ph. D., D.D.
for the Bishop of Pennsylvania

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The Reverend John R. Chisholm, B.J., Th. B.
Rector

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The Reverend Frank Damrosch
Rector Emeritus

•

The Reverend John B. Blenk
Curate

•

Mr. Charles M. Greenholt
Layreader

Order of Service

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ORGAN PRELUDE: Fugue in E♭ Major (St. Anne) ..... *Bach*
Miss Mary E. Maneely, A.A.G.O.
Organist and Choirmaster

HYMN NO. 396: "The Church's One Foundation" ..... *Aurelia*

"Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thy House, and the place where Thine honour dwelleth" ..... *Psalm 26:8*

"Except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost that build it — *Psalm 127:1*

SALUTATION: O Lord, open Thou our lips

RESPONSE: And our mouth shall show forth Thy praise

GLORIA PATRI

PSALM 127: "Nisi Dominus" Page 505

LESSON: I Corinthians 3:5-11

MAGNIFICAT: Stanford

THE APOSTLES' CREED:

THE BIDDING AND SUFFRAGES: Page 31

THE COLLECT FOR QUINQUAGESIMA

THE COLLECTS FOR PEACE AND FOR AID AGAINST PERILS

HYMN 538: "God is Working His Purpose Out" Purpose

PRESENTATION OF OUR THANK OFFERING Hymnal, No. 732 *Gardiner*

"All things are Thine; no gift have we,
Lord of all gifts, to offer Thee;
And hence with grateful hearts today
Thine own before Thy feet we lay. Amen."

A LITANY FOR THE CHURCH

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(for use at the Founding and Opening of a Church, and at other times, from "The Book of Offices," compiled by the Standing Liturgical Commission with the approval of General Convention—with certain additional petitions prepared for this occasion)

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O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth;
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world;
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful;
Have mercy upon us.

O Holy, Blessed and Glorious Trinity, One God;
Have mercy upon us.

O CHRIST, the Rock upon which Thy Church is built, whereon Thy People, as living stones fitly framed together, grow into a spiritual house;
Defend Thy Church, O Lord.

O Christ, the Vine of which Thy People are the branches, that they may bring forth fruit an hundredfold;
Defend Thy Church, O Lord.

O Christ, the Head of Thy Body, the Church, whereof all Thy People are the members:
Defend Thy Church, O Lord.

O Christ, our Prophet, Who teachest the way of God in truth;
Defend Thy Church, O Lord.

O Christ, our Priest, Who didst offer up Thyself upon the Cross, and ever livest to make intercession for us with the Father;
Defend Thy Church, O Lord.

O Christ, our King, Who reignest over all the earth, and makest us the citizens of Thy heavenly kingdom;
Defend Thy Church, O Lord.

O Christ, Who didst send the Holy Ghost upon the Church at Pentecost, enduing it with power from on high;
Defend Thy Church, O Lord.

We do beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that we may continue steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers;
We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That we may make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;
We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That Thou wilt fulfil Thy promise to be with us always, even unto the end of the world;
We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That Thou wilt bless the Clergy of Thy Church, that they may diligently preach the Gospel, and faithfully administer the Holy Sacraments;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That Thou wilt fill with the Grace of the Holy Spirit all those who teach and those who learn;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That He may lead them into all truth, bestowing upon them better things than we can desire or pray for;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That He will make of them true soldiers of Christ and leaders of Thy people, building through them in this place a Church with a Faith to move mountains and a Love to seek out all who have need or know Thee not;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That Thou wilt strengthen the hands of all who serve Thee as officers of this parish and of its organizations, and grant to them all things needful for Thy service;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That Thou wilt heal all divisions in Thy Church, that we all may be one, even as Thou art one with the Father and the Holy Ghost;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

That every member of the Church in his vocation and ministry may truly and godly serve Thee;

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

Arise, O God, maintain Thine own cause;

And shed Thy Grace upon Thy people.

Look down from heaven, behold, and visit this vine;

And the branch that Thou madest so strong for Thyself.

Let Thy priests be clothed with righteousness;

And let Thy saints sing with joyfulness.

The Lord be with you;

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O LORD, we beseech Thee, let Thy continual pity cleanse and defend Thy Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without Thy succour, preserve it evermore by Thy help and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to Whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

NOW unto Him Who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. *Amen.*

THE GRACE

THE PARISH SPEAKS: "A Hope Fulfilled"

Henry Douglas Paxson, Esq.

Rector's Warden and Chairman, St. Paul's Building Committee

A DESCENDANT OF THE APOSTLES SPEAKS: "Ye are the Body of Christ"

Bishop Tsu

AN APPRECIATION: by the Priest who is the Rector of this Parish

AN EXPLANATION OF THE ORDER AND MEANING OF THE GROUND BREAKING CEREMONIES AT THE SITE OF THE NEW PARISH HALL

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First, before the Procession of Clergy, Acolytes, Choirs, Vestry and Congregation to the Site of the Groundbreaking . . . . members of the Choirs, Acolytes and others without wraps will recess without singing (there will be an Organ Interlude), get their coats and hats and return — the Acolytes to the Chancel and Sanctuary and the Choir members down each of the side aisles, so they will be ready to join in the Procession as we leave.

The Order of the Procession: Thurifer and Acolyte with the Holy Water, Crucifer and Cross Guards, Senior Choir, Junior Choir, other Acolytes, the Parish Clergy, the Bishop. Then the members of the Vestry who have served during the last two years and the Congregation.

At the Site of the Groundbreaking: The Choirs and Acolytes not specifically assigned will proceed to the East End of the Site and align themselves there so that all may have a clear view. The Vestrymen will proceed to their posts, and the Congregation may group themselves as most convenient in the street (which will be closed to traffic for this occasion). The Bishop, other Clergy, Vestrymen, Acolytes and Church School pupils who will participate in the actual ceremonies will take their position at the assigned place at the front of where the new building will be erected, to the West of where the house formerly stood.

Meaning of the Ceremonies: On signal from Fr. Chisholm the appointed Church officers (Vestrymen and former Vestrymen) will stretch a cord from the stake at the Southeast Corner of the new building to the stake at the Northwest Corner; then from the stake at the Southwest Corner to the stake at the Northeast Corner, thus forming the Greek letter X, the symbol both of the Cross and of the Name of Christ. Again, on signal from Fr. Chisholm, other Vestrymen, beginning at the Southeast Corner and ending there, will completely encircle the four stakes, to mark the bounds of the new building.

Incense will be blessed, and after the Bishop has blessed the ground on which the Parish House will stand, it will be sprinkled and incensed. The Bishop then will formally break ground with a new spade, never before used, and will be followed by the Rector, appointed Church officials and children, chosen by lot, to represent each of the four divisions of the Church School.

After the prayers and petitions, as set forth in the Service Order, the Bishop will give us his blessing, and all will join in singing one stanza of "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow." This concludes the service. All are invited to come then to the Reception given by the Parish Organizations in the Undercroft of the Church.

ORGAN INTERLUDE

(during silent Recession of Choirs and Acolytes)

"SHEEP MAY SAFELY GRAZE" ..... Bach (Arr. by E. Power Biggs)

Miss Maneely

THE PROCESSION

V. Let us go forth in peace.
R. In the Name of Christ. *Amen.*

HYMN 557: "Onward, Christian Soldiers" ..... *St. Gertrude*

1.

"Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus
Going on before!
Christ, the royal Master,
Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle,
See, His banners go.

Refrain

"Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the Cross of Jesus
Going on before!

2.

"At the sign of triumph
Satan's host doth flee;
On, then, Christian soldiers,
On to victory!
Hell's foundations quiver
At the shout of praise;
Brothers, lift your voices,
Loud your anthems raise.

Refrain

3.

"Like a mighty army
Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading
Where the saints have trod;
We are not divided,
All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity.

Refrain

4.

"Crowns and thrones may perish
Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus
Constant will remain;
Gates of hell can never
'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise,
And that cannot fail.

Refrain

5.

"Onward, then, ye people,
Join our happy throng;
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song:
Glory, laud, and honor,
Unto Christ the King;
This through countless ages
Men and angels sing.

Refrain.

The Groundbreaking Ceremonies

The Rector:

"Thou son of man, show the house to the house of Israel, and let them measure the pattern."

The Cords will be stretched diagonally to form an X, the symbol of the Cross and of Christ.

The Rector:

"We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks."

The third cord will be stretched to enclose the entire area where the Parish Hall will stand.

THE BLESSING OF THE GROUND

V. Lord, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
V. Lord, have mercy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

V. O God, wonderful art Thou in Thy holy places;
R. Stablish the thing that Thou hast wrought in us.
V. O be favorable and gracious unto Sion.
R. Build Thou the walls of Jerusalem.

The Lord be with you,
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

"O LORD GOD of Israel, Who didst move Thy servant David to find out a place for Thy temple, and dost have Thy habitation among the sons of men; Vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, to hallow this ground, upon which we propose to build a School for Thy children and a Parish Hall where Thy family may gather, that the work now begun may be brought to completion, to the honor and glory of Thy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE BREAKING OF THE GROUND

¶ *The ground having been sprinkled and incensed, the Bishop shall then say,*

FORASMUCH as devout and faithful people have taken in hand to build on this ground a Church School Building and Parish Hall to be dedicated to the Glory of God, wherein the Gospel shall be faithfully taught, the fellowship of the Parish Family humbly enriched, and the life of the Community earnestly served to Thy Praise and Glory in this and coming generations;

¶ *Then taking the spade, and removing the first shovelful of earth, he shall continue,*

THEREFORE I break ground for this Building; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

¶ Then the Rector, Mr. John O. J. Shellenberger, Chairman of St. Paul's Building Fund Campaign; Mr. Randall Yardley Nelson, Superintendent of the Church School, and the following pupils representing the four departments of the Church School: *Senior*, William Scarborough; *Junior High*, Nancy Nelson; *Elementary*, Karen Jeffries, and *Nursery and Kindergarten*, Dean De Groot, in their appointed turn, shall also remove earth, each saying,

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

¶ *Then shall the Bishop say the Collect of the Patron Saint for whom this Parish is named, the Congregation joining him,*

"O GOD, Who, through the preaching of the blessed Apostle Saint Paul, hast caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world; Grant, we beseech Thee, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show forth our thankfulness unto Thee for the same, by following the holy doctrine which he taught; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever, one God, world without end. Amen."

THE BENEDICTION

NOW set your hearts and souls to seek the Lord your God; rise up and build ye this house to the Glory of His Name; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

¶ *Then shall all join in singing Hymn 139*

"PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW;
PRAISE HIM, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW;
PRAISE HIM ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST:
PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN."

(The Acolytes, Choir and Clergy will return in procession to the Parish Hall. The Reception will follow immediately)

THE VESTRY OF ST. PAUL'S

Henry D. Paxson, Rector's Warden; H. Gilbert Lightcap, Accounting Warden; H. John Rosenberger, Secretary; Herbert C. Eberhart, Treasurer; Irwin H. Renneisen, Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer of the Building Fund; John O. J. Shellenberger, Chairman of the Finance Committee; Wesley C. Erven, Chairman of the Church Property Committee; Randall Y. Nelson, Chairman of the Committee on Christian Education and Missions; Harry D. Wagner, Chairman of the Church Membership Committee; J. Donald Bean, G. Thawley Hayman, H. Le Roy Kister, Edwin T. Scarborough, Frank Swartzlander, Dr. George E. Turner. Other Vestrymen who served during the last two years are: Daniel D. Atkinson, Charles M. Greenholt, Norman L. Keller, Charles W. Miller and Wheeler L. Scudder.

Church School Alternates: Chosen to serve at the Groundbreaking if any of the principals cannot attend are: *Senior*, Barbara Mather; *Junior High*, Richard Rhine; *Elementary*, Evelyn Haeflein; *Nursery and Kindergarten*, Keith Jeffries.

Dreams Do Come True!

IF — they are the right kind of dreams — directed by the Holy Spirit, and soundly supported by Work and Prayer.

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The dream of a greater St. Paul's is not a new one. On December 10, 1953, when Father Damrosch was rector, the Vestry purchased the house next door, at 86 East Oakland Avenue, for $12,000, with a view to ultimate expansion.

We might go back further, and say that growth was contemplated in 1870, when the ground to the South of the Church was purchased, and the Church enlarged . . . when St. Paul's became self-supporting four years later, and was further enlarged in 1882.

But the dream didn't begin then. The dream and the sense of mission already existed when the Rev. George P. Hopkins came to Doylestown in 1845, and found only one Communicant, Mrs. Elizabeth Pawling Ross (Mrs. Thomas Ross), who, until the founding of St. Paul's, rode horseback to Philadelphia once a month to make her Communion. The dream grew as ground was broken for the church on July 20, 1846, and has been kept alive in the hearts and minds of her faithful people.

Over the years the building of a Parish Hall was discussed many times. Impetus was provided by the reorganization of the Church School in 1958, its development, and the growth of our area. It became apparent that we had to find some answers, not only to present needs but to future responsibilities and opportunities. Two years ago last St. Paul's Day, the Rector appointed a Committee of 20 men and women, representing a cross-section of the parish, with Charles M. Greenholt and Henry D. Paxson as co-chairmen. The Committee was given a detailed outline of questions and problems, asked to find the answers, and in due course present its findings and recommendations to the Rector and Vestry. Making use of the best sources available, official and otherwise, including the unpaid professional guidance of our architect, Erling H. Pedersen, the Committee completed its study and recommended to the Vestry that St. Paul's meet the challenge.

The rest is history, but history bears repeating. In successive stages, with thorough study supporting each step, the Vestry approved the proposals in principle; authorized the drawing of preliminary plans by Mr. Pedersen; consulted Church fund-raising firms; secured unofficial estimates of cost; submitted the whole proposal to a special General Parish Meeting . . . . and then after the Parish vote was 4 to 1 in favor of going ahead, began laying plans for a campaign for the necessary capital funds. But study of many aspects of the program was to continue for a long time.

Following a Lenten Preaching Mission, proposed by Vestryman H. Le Roy Kister and endorsed by the whole Vestry, to provide the necessary spiritual foundation, the Building Fund Campaign began on Whitsunday, May 21, of last year, after five weeks of intensive preparation.

The campaign was organized by Staudt Associates, Reading, and directed by Harry N. Althouse, with John O. J. Shellenberger as general chairman, an executive committee of 20 and about 75 team members. Supported by a Prayer Vigil maintained by about 50 of our women, it proved an unqualified success. More than $116,000 was pledged toward our objective of $125,000. The income from the Carver Trust Fund has been earmarked for the Building Fund, and a number of bequests have further swelled the total. It is a reasonable expectation that with pledges from new members, additional gifts from those who preferred not to pledge but give year by year as they found it possible, and other contributions, our eventual total giving will exceed our highest hopes, and enable us to do all the things we want to do. And the payments on pledges, while maintaining an increased operating budget, have been excellent.

Last Summer the Vestry authorized the drawing of plans and specifications and asking bids for general construction. These were weighed against our resources and anticipated revenue and it was determined that ample credit could be secured against our anticipations. Study continued throughout the Fall and all possible problems were considered and ironed out. On recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Vestry at its meeting in January, 1962, authorized Mr. Paxson, chairman of the Special Building Committee, to sign a contract with G. L. Janke, Inc., Lansdale, the low bidder, for the first stage of our expansion program, the construction of the Parish Hall. And the Accounting Warden has been authorized to borrow, when necessary, any sums necessary to carry the work to successful completion. The house next door now has been razed and today we break ground for the new Church School Building and Parish Hall.

God helping us, St. Paul's has come thus far in 117 years. With the continued guidance of the Holy Spirit we will go forward in the Faith until all these dreams come true. And then, like good Christians should, and even now probably are doing, we will have new dreams, and fresh adventures in the Faith.